

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CONAKR 01048 171105Z
ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 INT-05 EB-07 COME-00 /029 W
-----171116Z 111645 /14

R 170925Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3141
INFO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 1048

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EMIN GV US
SUBJECT: U.S. STEEL AND MIFERGUI-NIMBA

1. SEVEN-MAN U.S. STEEL TEAM LED BY VICE PRESIDENT FOR MINERAL RESOURCES, J.S. ROLLINS, SPENT 13-15 JUNE IN CONAKRY. DISCUSSIONS PROCEEDED WELL. U.S. STEEL IS CONSIDERING UP TO 15 PERCENT PARTICIPATION (I.E. 30 PERCENT OF NON-GOG PARTICIPATION) WITH ASSUMPTION OVERALL LEADERSHIP RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENGINEERING, CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATIONS. U.S. STEEL WISHES ALSO TO HANDLE TRANSPORT OF GOG PORTION OF ORE ON U.S. STEEL CARGO FLEET. MAJOR QUESTION TO BE RESOLVED REMAINS RAIL TRANSPORT AGREEMENT WITH LAMCO, ALTHOUGH U.S. STEEL IS CONFIDENT THAT MUTUALLY PROFITABLE ARRANGEMENT CAN BE REACHED. SHOULD U.S. STEEL COME BACK INTO MIFERGUI-NIMBA ON SCALE ENVISAGED, GOG WILL HAVE TO TALK SOME OF THE PRESENT PARTNERS INTO ABANDONING OR REDUCING THEIR PARTICIPATION. THIS DOES NOT SEEM TO POSE A PROBLEM SINCE SOME INTEND TO REDUCE ANYWAY.

2. AT CONCLUSION TALKS ROLLINS GAVE GOG LETTER INDICATING U.S. STEEL INTEREST IN PURSUING DISCUSSIONS WITH GOG. U.S. STEEL WORKING LEVEL TECHNICAL DELEGATION WILL ARRIVE CONAKRY 11 JULY TO CONTINUE TALKS, VISIT MINE SITE AND REVIEW RAIL AND PORT FACILITIES IN LIBERIA. GUINEAN DELEGATION WILL VISIT PITTSBURGH STARTING
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CONAKR 01048 171105Z

1 AUGUST TO REVIEW U.S. STEEL OPERATIONS INCLUDING VISIT TO MOST MODERN COMPARABLE MINING OPERATION AT MOUNT RICE IN CANADA.

3. DELEGATION WAS ASKED TO DELAY DEPARTURE THREE ADDITIONAL HOURS TO MEET PRESIDENT SEKOU TOURE. ISMAEL TOURE, MIN DOMAIN, ECONOMY AND FINANCE, SIGNED A LETTER TO

U.S. STEEL WHICH INDICATES GUINEAN WILLINGNESS TO PURSUE DISCUSSIONS. LETTER EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH SCHEDULE ARRANGED BY U.S. STEEL AND SETS SEPTEMBER 14, 1977 DEADLINE FOR U.S. STEEL DECISION ON JOINING PROJECT.

4. GENERAL MANAGER OF MIFERGUI-NIMBA COMMENTED THAT MEETING WITH PRESIDENT TOURE WENT SMOOTHLY. HE NOTED THAT PRESIDENT SEEMED PLEASED WITH PROGRESS SO FAR. ISMAEL TOURE WENT TO AIRPORT TO SEE U.S. STEEL DELEGATION OFF.

5.COMMENT: ROLLINS HAS SHOWN SOME CONCERN OVER POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT, PARTICULARLY DEGREE OF SOVIET INFLUENCE AND DIFFICULTIES OF POLITICAL COMPATABILITY BETWEEN GUINEA AND LIBERIA UPON WHOSE COOPERATION PROJECT DEPENDS. U.S. STEEL IS DEFINITELY INTERESTED BUT IS STILL SOME WAY FROM DECISION. ONE PROBLEM IS THAT GOG, AS IN CASE OF KAISER, IS BEGINNING TO REGARD U.S. STEEL AS IN THE BAG, ALTHOUGH GOG SEEMS NERVOUS THAT USG MAY WITHHOLD ITS ENDORSEMENT FOR POLITICAL REASONS. WORLD BANK CONTINUES TO PLAY POSITIVE AND ENERGETIC ROLE OF GOOD BROKER BETWEEN GOG AND U.S. STEEL.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT CONTACT OPIC TO DETERMINE IF U.S. STEEL HAS FILED PRELIMINARY APPLICATION. IF SO, POST WOULD APPRECIATE OPIC COMMENTS.
HARROP

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINING, MEETING DELEGATIONS, STEELS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CONAKR01048
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770216-1043
Format: TEL
From: CONAKRY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770647/aaaaborn.tel
Line Count: 88
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c80efc7a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OPIC
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2116750
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S. STEEL AND MIFERGUI-NIMBA
TAGS: EMIN, GV, US, (ROLLINS, J S)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c80efc7a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009